

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT!

BARKING 2, WYCOMBE WANDERERS 0
BARKING may have picked up three points on Saturday — but the goals that earned them victory had been painstaking practised earlier at Training sessions.

Both goals came from corners, and were well executed set pieces that carved open the Wycombe defence.

So as Barking climbed away from the Isthmian League Premier Division danger zone Manager Harry Cripps had every reason to be a happy man.

"We have worked hard on the set pieces and it is tremendous for the lads when they work out," smiled Cripps afterwards.

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"I reckon dead ball situations like that will give us about 15 goals this season. We have been unlucky with the moves before and could have had about eight goals so far this season from situations like that. The lads work it so well," declared Cripps.

The first goal came after 33 minutes of non-descript first half action — but it was worth waiting for.

Nicky Ironton's cleverly flighted corner from the left was deftly flicked on by the giant Dave Campbell — and Mick DINGWELL was on hand to gleefully head home from close range.

Indeed, it had been Dingwall that had engineered Barking's best chance earlier in the half. His wriggling flank run ended with a pinpoint cross that Terry Dormer headed wide when well placed.

Joe Gibbs showed some enterprising touches with his pacy runs down the wings, but Barking failed to capitalise, and with the rugged Blues rearguard keeping Wycombe in check chances were few and far between.

After the break Barking created the best chances. Dingwall watched his shot pawed away by Gary Lester and Gibbs snaked in on the rebound but with the goal at his mercy contrived to screw the ball wide.

A one goal advantage rarely looked enough and there was an uneasy feeling that Wycombe might steal an equaliser.

But in the last minute Barking made the game safe. Following a corner on the right a scramble ended with the ball rolling to IRONTON who crashed it home.

"I thought we played well and deserved our win," said Cripps. "The defence were tremendous again, but I was pleased with everyone," concluded the Blues boss.

Barking: Blake 7, Anderson 7, Makin 7, Campbell 7, Davy 7, Smith 6, Stone 7, Ironton 7, DINGWALL 8, Dormer 6, Gibbs 7. Sub. Flavell.